

What's New in the MPDC

JULY 16, 2001

DISTRICT UNVEILS NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Mayor Williams joined public safety, legislative and community leaders this week in unveiling a new Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC) designed to improve 9-1-1 and 3-1-1 service in the District of Columbia. Located just south of the McMillan Reservoir in Northwest DC, the new center combines state-of-the-art technology with a modern facility that enhances coordination among public safety agencies and bolsters employee productivity. The PSCC brings together, for the first time in one facility, all call-taking and dispatch functions of both the MPDC and the DC Fire and EMS Department. The center includes state-of-the-art telephone and Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems that are now shared by both the Police and Fire/EMS departments. In the past, the two departments operated

The new PSCC handles both 9-1-1 emergency and 3-1-1 non-emergency calls for service. Learn more about these two numbers and when to use them by visiting the "Quick Guide to Contacting the MPDC" at:

*www.mpd.org
(Click on Telephone Directory)*

The MPDC has 3-1-1 flyers, refrigerator magnets and stickers available for individuals or community groups. And your group can request a presentation on the non-emergency number. To request information, please e-mail Kevin Morison of the MPDC at kevin.morison@dc.gov.

from separate communications centers and used different telephone and CAD systems. The PSCC includes modern ergonomic furniture specially designed for 9-1-1 operators, "quiet rooms" for personnel who have handled particularly stressful calls, an extensive training facility, and a complete kitchen and workout facility. Read the news release and fact sheet on the new PSCC at:

www.mpd.org (Click on News)

PSA 205 SUCCESS STORY: CRACKING DOWN ON VEHICLE REGISTRATION SCOFFLAWS

How would you like to have a vehicle with out-of-state plates parked in front of your house, taking up valuable parking space for months on end? And what if you knew these same scofflaws even went as far as to rip out "No Parking" signs so that they could park illegally? Residents of PSA 205 endured this problem, but using the Partnerships for Problem Solving process they did something about it. First, a team of police officers, civic organizations, residents and ANC3B got together and developed a game plan. They passed out flyers announcing that enforcement action would be taken and identified streets with numerous violators. In February 2001, the team obtained a laptop computer and used it to track vehicles that were in violation of reciprocity laws. Over the next five months, more than 900 vehicles had been entered in the computer system, and more than 450 Notices of Infractions were written. And because of this initiative, there are now plans in the new fiscal year to hire parking enforcement aides who will primarily write reciprocity tickets and a night shift will be implemented to work on booting illegal vehicles. Get the complete details on PSA 205 problem-solving success at:

www.mpd.org (Go to Districts & PSAs and select the 2nd District)

MPDC, 7-ELEVEN TEAM UP TO KEEP DC COOL AND SAFE THIS SUMMER

Again this year, the MPDC and 7-Eleven, Inc., are teaming up to keep DC residents cool and safe during the hot summer months. Through Operation Water Works, 7-Eleven is supplying 10,800 bottles of water for MPDC officers to distribute to children, senior citizens, and others in distress on days when the District Government declares a Heat Advisory Alert. In addition to the water, 7-Eleven is providing the MPDC with coolers to be kept in police cruisers and more than 2,000 coupons for seven-pound bags of ice. When a Heat Advisory Alert is declared, police officers will redeem the ice coupons at 7-Eleven convenience stores throughout the District, and then load up the coolers with chilled bottled water for distribution to the community. For more information about Operation Water Works, go to:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Programs and Services)

CHIEF RAMSEY JOINS IN CALL FOR MORE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AS A WAY TO PREVENT CRIME

Chief Ramsey this week joined other members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids to release a new study showing that increased investments in Head Start and other child-care programs can significantly reduce crime. A 15-year study of children who had been enrolled in the Chicago Child-Parent Centers, and of similar children who did not participate, showed that kids in the program did better in school and were far less likely to be arrested for crimes as teenagers. When all 100,000 children who have thus far participated in the program reach age 18, Chicago will have been spared roughly 13,000 violent crimes, according to the new analysis released by University of Wisconsin professor Arthur Reynolds, principal researcher on the Chicago Longitudinal Study. That study is the first long-term research ever conducted of a large-scale early childhood program. Said Chief Ramsey, who spent nearly 30 years with the Chicago Police Department: "The evidence couldn't be clearer. Congress could prevent hundreds of thousands of crimes by investing in school readiness programs. We can pay now to help kids get the right start or pay far more later in crime and lives." For details on the new study, click on:

www.fightcrime.org/press/reynoldsJuly2001.html

REMINDER: WALK-IN OFFICER TESTING EVERY THURSDAY

The MPDC continues to offer weekly, walk-in testing for individuals interested in becoming Metropolitan Police officers. Applicants who wish to take the entrance examination may do so on any Thursday afternoon at 1 pm, by going to the Office of Recruiting, # 6 D.C. Village Lane, SW, Building 1-A. Filling out an application and completing a written examination are the first steps in the application process. To learn more about the process, including the minimum requirements and salary and benefits, please visit:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Career Opportunities)

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
WWW.MPDC.ORG